

# **Exhibit A**

**FRIENDS OF GEORGE'S, INC.,**

**vs.**

**MULROY, et al.**

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**30(b)(6)**

**VANESSA RODLEY**

**April 24, 2023**

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VETERAN COURT REPORTING  
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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE  
WESTERN DIVISION

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FRIENDS OF GEORGE'S, INC.,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No. 2:23-CV-02163-tmp  
Case No. 2:23-CV-02176-tmp

STEVEN J. MULROY, in his  
individual capacity,

Defendant.

and

STATE OF TENNESSEE,

Defendant-Intervenor

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30(b)(6) Deposition of:

VANESSA RODLEY

Taken on behalf of the  
Defendant-Intervenor, via Zoom,  
April 24, 2023

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S T I P U L A T I O N S

The 30(b)(6) deposition of VANESSA RODLEY was taken by counsel for the Defendant-Intervenor, by Notice, via Zoom, on April 24, 2023, for all purposes under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

All formalities as to caption, notice, statement of appearance, et cetera, are waived. All objections, except as to the form of the question, are reserved to the hearing, and that said deposition may be read and used in evidence in said cause of action in any trial thereon or any proceeding herein.

It is agreed that D. ROCHELLE KOENES, Notary Public and Licensed Court Reporter, for the State of Tennessee, may swear the witness, and that the reading and signing of the completed deposition by the witness were not discussed.

1                                   \*     \*     \*

2                   MR. TIMMONS: Before we get started, I                   09:01:26  
3 would like to put a running objection on the record,                   09:01:28  
4 if you don't mind.                   09:01:30

5                   MR. WILSON: Okay.                   09:01:32

6                   MR. TIMMONS: So to the extent that this                   09:01:33  
7 discovery is intended to address issues of standing,                   09:01:35  
8 we object on the basis that we don't think the State                   09:01:38  
9 of Tennessee, in its role as defending the                   09:01:43  
10 Constitutionality of the statute, has a basis to                   09:01:47  
11 raise standing. But, obviously, we're going to go                   09:01:51  
12 ahead and let you proceed and take your discovery                   09:01:54  
13 deposition.                   09:01:59

14                   We also intend to seek a protective                   09:02:02  
15 order as to that issue, and I want to go ahead and                   09:02:05  
16 consult about that. I'm assuming you guys are                   09:02:09  
17 going to oppose that and that we probably can't                   09:02:13  
18 reach a compromise. But, you know, we have an                   09:02:18  
19 obligation to consult, so I would like to go ahead                   09:02:21  
20 and get that out of the way.                   09:02:24

21                   MR. WILSON: I guess the -- probably,                   09:02:25  
22 but let us think about it first and discuss, since                   09:02:27  
23 you just brought it to our attention here at 9:00                   09:02:31  
24 o'clock.                   09:02:34

25                   MR. TIMMONS: Of course. Of course. I                   09:02:35

1 don't intend to file it today. I just wanted to 09:02:36  
2 raise the issue. Since we have such a compressed 09:02:40  
3 time frame, I wanted to go ahead and knock it out. 09:02:42

4 MR. WILSON: Okay. 09:02:46

5 MR. TIMMONS: Thank you, Robert. 09:02:47

6 MR. WILSON: All right. Thank you, 09:02:49  
7 Brice. 09:02:49

8 MR. TIMMONS: Have at it. 09:02:49

9 \* \* \*

10 MS. VANESSA RODLEY  
11 was called as a witness and, after having been duly  
12 sworn, testified as follows:

13  
14 EXAMINATION

15 QUESTIONS BY MR. WILSON:

16 Q. Ma'am, could you please state your name for 09:02:51  
17 the record. 09:02:52

18 A. Sure. My full name is Vanessa Danielle Noel 09:02:54  
19 Rodley. 09:02:58

20 Q. Ms. Rodley, my name is Robert Wilson, and I'm 09:03:01  
21 with the Tennessee Attorney General's office and I 09:03:02  
22 represent the State of Tennessee in this matter. 09:03:05

23 Do you understand that you're here today 09:03:07  
24 regarding Rule 30(b)(6) deposition for plaintiff, 09:03:09  
25 Friends of George's? 09:03:13



1 other organization? 09:13:09

2 A. No, sir. 09:13:10

3 Q. And you mentioned that Friends of George's is 09:13:20

4 a not profit -- or nonprofit. Does that mean it 09:13:22

5 doesn't have any shareholders? 09:13:25

6 A. That is correct. It is a nonprofit. 09:13:28

7 Q. Does Friends of George's share any ownership 09:13:39

8 responsibilities with any other business entities? 09:13:43

9 A. No, sir. 09:13:45

10 Q. And where is Friends of George's based? 09:13:49

11 A. Based here in Memphis, Tennessee. 09:13:54

12 Q. What's its address? 09:14:00

13 A. Well, we operate out of 1705 Poplar Avenue, 09:14:02

14 which is the Evergreen Theater. 09:14:05

15 Q. And who-all was involved with the formation 09:14:19

16 of Friends of George's? 09:14:22

17 A. Founding board member -- founding member 09:14:26

18 Tracy Love is the person who organized and founded 09:14:29

19 everything. He's no longer on our board. There are 09:14:33

20 several people who founded that are no longer. The 09:14:36

21 only current board member that was on the original 09:14:39

22 board would be Bill Zachary. 09:14:43

23 Q. What is your role in Friends of George's? 09:14:52

24 A. My role fluctuates all the time based on 09:14:56

25 need, but I am a board member at large. I run back 09:14:59

1 A. Yeah. I served for Mid-South Pride since 09:21:59  
2 2012. 09:22:03

3 Q. And what is your role with Mid-South Pride? 09:22:08

4 A. It's changed over this long amount of time, 09:22:11  
5 but I'm currently president. 09:22:13

6 Q. And what year did you become president of 09:22:26  
7 Mid-South Pride? 09:22:30

8 A. Oh, God. I think 2016 or 2017. 09:22:31

9 Q. Is Mid-South Pride affiliated with Friends of 09:22:51  
10 George's? 09:22:56

11 A. No. They've got no connection. 09:22:58

12 Q. Ms. Rodley, other than Friends of George's, 09:23:07  
13 do you serve with any other theater group? 09:23:08

14 A. No. 09:23:11

15 Q. Ms. Rodley, I would like to turn a little bit 09:23:34  
16 about, I guess, how Friends of George's operates. 09:23:37  
17 You've mentioned that they are a theater company. 09:23:43  
18 Do they charge admission for shows? 09:23:45

19 A. Yes, we do. We charge a ticket admission. 09:23:49

20 Q. And how much are the tickets normally? 09:23:52

21 A. \$27. 09:23:53

22 Q. Does the ticket price ever fluctuate? 09:23:57

23 A. It goes with the times and cost of living. I 09:24:01  
24 believe it started at -- I think at 20 bucks back 09:24:04  
25 when it first started, but it's gone up as costs and 09:24:08

1 inflation. Right? 09:24:12

2 Q. Is the ticket price something that Friends of 09:24:14

3 George's itself sets? 09:24:21

4 A. Yes. 09:24:24

5 Q. And where does Friends of George's normally 09:24:34

6 conduct its performances? 09:24:39

7 A. At Evergreen Theater. 09:24:41

8 Q. Does Friends of George's conduct their 09:24:45

9 performances in any other venue? 09:24:48

10 A. Sometimes. It just really depends. 09:24:53

11 Evergreen is our home theater, but sometimes we will 09:24:55

12 do pop-up events or things of us that are requested 09:24:59

13 outside of that. But we do have three shows every 09:25:02

14 year at the Evergreen Theater. 09:25:06

15 Q. About how often does Friends of George's 09:25:19

16 perform one of those pop-up shows that you 09:25:24

17 mentioned? 09:25:26

18 A. I would say it's probably on average of once 09:25:27

19 or twice a year. The Horseshoe Casino has invited 09:25:30

20 us the last two years to do a show a year. 09:25:36

21 Q. Is there any other venues that come to mind? 09:25:44

22 A. Nothing that we've done in the last four or 09:25:47

23 five years. It was COVID, so we really didn't do 09:25:50

24 much. 09:25:54

25 Q. And does Friends of George's, if they go to 09:26:12

1 another venue, say the Horseshoe Casino, do they 09:26:16  
2 still charge the same admission price? 09:26:19

3 A. No. Usually that is determined with the 09:26:22  
4 partner that we are working with. So in that case, 09:26:24  
5 Horseshoe Casino sets the price, I believe, or we 09:26:26  
6 work with them and set the price. 09:26:32

7 Q. And going back to Evergreen Theater, does 09:26:44  
8 Friends of George's, for their tickets, is there a 09:26:47  
9 general admission or seating classification? 09:26:49

10 A. In this show, we did something new where we 09:26:58  
11 did reserve seat, which we call VIP, because it's 09:27:01  
12 free seating at our shows. So for this show, we did 09:27:03  
13 one row where we did reserve, and we charged a 09:27:05  
14 different price. But besides that, no, it's general 09:27:09  
15 admission. 09:27:12

16 Q. And when you say "this show," what is the 09:27:15  
17 show? 09:27:18

18 A. So we did Drag Rocks, Dragnificent Drag 09:27:19  
19 Rocks. We have a variety show that we call 09:27:24  
20 Dragnificent that we do every year, and the theme of 09:27:26  
21 it changes. The theme this year was rock and roll, 09:27:29  
22 so we did Drag Rocks this year, and we did six shows 09:27:32  
23 for this production. 09:27:37

24 Q. And for the reserved seating for Drag Rocks, 09:27:46  
25 what was the price charge for that? 09:27:51

1 Do you see that? 09:57:54

2 A. Yes. 09:57:55

3 Q. And this is one of those, I guess, that you 09:57:56

4 were getting at earlier. Does Friends of George's 09:58:00

5 only produce drag-centric performances? 09:58:03

6 A. Yeah. Pretty much. I mean, the drag is a 09:58:08

7 part of everything we do. 09:58:11

8 MR. WILSON: Ms. Rochelle, let's go 09:58:14

9 ahead and make the complaint the next-numbered 09:58:25

10 exhibit. 09:58:25

11 (WHEREUPON, the above-mentioned

12 document was marked as Exhibit Number 3.)

13 BY MR. WILSON:

14 Q. And then, Ms. Rodley, is this the -- just for 09:58:39

15 Exhibit 3 -- is this the complaint that was filed 09:58:40

16 against District Attorney Steven Mulroy? 09:58:43

17 A. Yes, sir. 09:58:47

18 Q. Referring back to paragraph 5, where it says, 09:58:53

19 "Drag-centric performances, comedy sketches, and 09:58:55

20 plays," is there a distinction between performances, 09:59:00

21 comedy sketches, and plays? 09:59:02

22 A. Not really. They are all pretty much 09:59:06

23 performances. They are just different types of -- I 09:59:08

24 guess different types of performances. But, I mean, 09:59:13

25 that's what we do. 09:59:19

1 Q. I guess for -- is there -- for Friends of 09:59:21  
2 George's performances, is there one that's more, I 09:59:26  
3 guess, comedy sketch versus the three of those or is 09:59:29  
4 it they are all just kind of rolled in? 09:59:34

5 A. No. I mean, comedy is what we are. We -- 09:59:37  
6 you know, I mean we will do dramatics, right, but 09:59:41  
7 comedy is kind of where our home is. And so 09:59:45  
8 everything we write, usually has got a funny 09:59:48  
9 undertone to it. 09:59:53

10 Q. Going back to Friends of George's 10:00:14  
11 performances at the Evergreen, is there a contract 10:00:16  
12 between the Evergreen Theater and Friends of 10:00:19  
13 George's? 10:00:20

14 A. Yes, sir. 10:00:21

15 Q. Do you know when Friends of George's entered 10:00:27  
16 that contract? 10:00:28

17 A. Yes. We signed it a couple of months ago. 10:00:30  
18 We sign it every year. 10:00:34

19 Q. Would it be fair to say that is a one-year 10:00:41  
20 renewal contract? 10:00:44

21 A. Yeah. 10:00:47

22 Q. Is that contract with Evergreen Theater or 10:00:59  
23 I've seen -- was it Downtown Dream Machine Theater 10:01:04  
24 Works? 10:01:10

25 A. It's the same company, but yes. Theater 10:01:11

1 Works runs both the Theater Works theater and the 10:01:13  
2 Theater Works Evergreen Theater. They've added 10:01:18  
3 "Theater Works" to the Evergreen to make it part of 10:01:21  
4 the same entity. 10:01:26

5 Q. And where is Theater Works theater? 10:01:27

6 A. That one is on the square, over there on 10:01:29  
7 Overton Square. It's a big property of areas. It's 10:01:32  
8 on a small street over there. I think on Florence. 10:01:37

9 Q. That's in Memphis? 10:01:41

10 A. Hm-hmm. Friends of George's, we've never 10:01:42  
11 done a production at that theater. 10:01:45

12 Q. And when you said "hm-hmm," was that meant to 10:01:47  
13 be a yes? 10:01:50

14 A. Yes. I'm sorry. Yes. 10:01:51

15 Q. Has Friends of George's, within Memphis, have 10:02:06  
16 they conducted any of their performances in any 10:02:08  
17 other theater in Memphis besides the Evergreen? 10:02:12

18 A. No. 10:02:15

19 Q. Does the contract between Evergreen Theater 10:02:32  
20 or Theater Works and Friends of George's restrict 10:02:34  
21 the type of performances that Friends of George's 10:02:38  
22 can offer? 10:02:39

23 A. No. 10:02:43

24 Q. Does it have any restrictions as to where 10:02:49  
25 Friends of George's can conduct its performances? 10:02:52

1 able to be produced for kids that can be 10:07:43  
2 accompanied -- or minors to be accompanied by a 10:07:50  
3 parent. Do you have a lot of minors that attend 10:07:54  
4 Friends of George's productions? 10:08:01

5 A. I wouldn't say we have a lot. We do have 10:08:05  
6 some parents who will bring some of their children 10:08:07  
7 in. We -- as long as they are with a parent. I 10:08:10  
8 mean, I run the front of the house now, so I'd say 10:08:16  
9 maybe there would be a handful out of the whole 10:08:19  
10 production. It's not a lot, but they are all, you 10:08:22  
11 know, accompanied by their parent, and we have no 10:08:26  
12 problem with that. We've not had any complaints 10:08:30  
13 either. 10:08:34

14 Most parents will e-mail us and ask ahead of 10:08:37  
15 time and say, Is it okay if we bring our child? 10:08:41  
16 And we usually respond by saying, It's your right 10:08:43  
17 to parent your child. If you think that this is an 10:08:46  
18 okay venue, then that's a decision a parent's right 10:08:49  
19 to make. 10:08:54

20 Q. Do you know if there's been a Friends of 10:09:01  
21 George's production where, say, a parent has 10:09:03  
22 e-mailed about asking if they can bring their child, 10:09:08  
23 has Friends of George's ever said no or -- 10:09:11

24 A. Oh, no. We've -- no, we've never said no. 10:09:16  
25 So like I said, when, like, for example, we had two 10:09:19



1 people e-mail us or message us for this show, our 10:09:23  
2 response is always, you know, you're the parent. 10:09:26  
3 You know your child better than we do. If this is 10:09:29  
4 something that you think that your child would enjoy 10:09:33  
5 and you want to bring them, that's up to you as a 10:09:35  
6 parent. We've never told anyone no. 10:09:39  
7 Q. Has Friends of George's ever put a parental 10:09:41  
8 warning on any of its productions? 10:09:45  
9 A. Uh-huh. 10:09:48  
10 MR. GRIFFIN: Was that answer a no? 10:09:57  
11 THE WITNESS: That's a no. 10:09:59  
12 MR. GRIFFIN: Thank you. 10:10:00  
13 BY MR. WILSON:  
14 Q. And for Friends of George's at Evergreen 10:10:20  
15 Theater, is alcohol served there? 10:10:21  
16 A. Yes, sir. 10:10:26  
17 Q. Is it -- do the audience members purchase it 10:10:26  
18 by the drink or is there drink tickets? How does 10:10:38  
19 that -- how does that -- 10:10:42  
20 A. You know, it's typically just like at any 10:10:42  
21 other theater. Just like a concession stand, you 10:10:44  
22 walk up and get your drink or your soda or your 10:10:47  
23 bottled water. 10:10:51  
24 Q. Does Friends of George's sell drink tickets? 10:10:54  
25 A. We do not sell drink tickets. 10:10:57

1 about before that the productions would be divided 10:13:03  
2 into six shows. Is there one weekend that will 10:13:06  
3 include the Thursday show and then another weekend 10:13:09  
4 that will include a Sunday show? 10:13:11

5 A. That is correct. So we have to move out of 10:13:15  
6 the theater on Sundays. 10:13:17

7 Q. Okay. 10:13:18

8 A. So the first week, we do a Thursday -- I'm 10:13:18  
9 sorry -- the first week, we do a Friday, Saturday, 10:13:21  
10 and a Sunday show. And then the second week, we do 10:13:22  
11 a Thursday, Friday, and a Saturday show. And then 10:13:26  
12 we move out of the theater that Sunday. 10:13:29

13 Q. Do you know if the Evergreen Theater has a 10:13:55  
14 license to provide adult-oriented entertainment? 10:13:58

15 A. I do not know. 10:14:07

16 Q. Do you know if the Evergreen Theater has ever 10:14:08  
17 applied for one? 10:14:10

18 A. I have no idea. 10:14:12

19 Q. Does Friends of George's have any future 10:14:25  
20 performances scheduled at a venue other than the 10:14:27  
21 Evergreen Theater? 10:14:29

22 A. No. 10:14:30

23 Q. Has Friends of George's ever produced an 10:14:46  
24 outdoor production? 10:14:48

25 A. Outdoors as in outside? 10:14:51

1 Q. I should say conducted one of its 10:14:55

2 performances outside, outside of Evergreen. Just 10:14:57

3 outside in general, I guess. 10:15:00

4 A. I don't believe so. Uh-huh. We may have 10:15:04

5 attended things that were outside, but we have never 10:15:08

6 organized an outside event. 10:15:12

7 Q. Has Friends of George's ever conducted a 10:15:19

8 production on public property? 10:15:21

9 A. No. Uh-uh. 10:15:29

10 Q. Has Friends of George's ever conducted a 10:15:42

11 performance at an age-restricted venue? 10:15:44

12 A. I believe Horseshoe Casino. I believe many 10:15:50

13 upon many years ago -- I would have to look at this 10:15:57

14 list -- but some of these are bar locations where 10:16:00

15 we've done pop-ups, and those would be 10:16:04

16 age-restricted. 10:16:06

17 Q. Do you know about what years those were? 10:16:13

18 A. Yeah. If I look back at this list here. 10:16:15

19 Let's see. Let's see, the last one I can see here 10:16:19

20 would have been Goldie Dee's baby shower in 2019 at 10:16:29

21 Zebra Lounge. That's an 18-and-up location. So 10:16:34

22 it's been a long time. Before that, it was 2012. 10:16:40

23 Q. And do you know what the age restriction is 10:16:56

24 for the Horseshoe Casino? 10:16:59

25 A. I believe it's 18 and up. Gambling laws; 10:17:01

1 right? 10:17:06

2 Q. And where is the Horseshoe Casino located? 10:17:08

3 A. In Tunica, Mississippi. 10:17:11

4 Q. And when was the last time Friends of 10:17:26

5 George's did a production for the Horseshoe Casino? 10:17:28

6 A. Let's see here. We did one July of last 10:17:33

7 year. 10:17:39

8 Q. That would be July of 2022? 10:17:53

9 A. Yes, sir. 10:17:57

10 Q. What was the production? 10:17:58

11 A. Wet Hot Summer Drag. 10:17:59

12 Q. And would you consider that to be an R-rated 10:18:12

13 production? 10:18:15

14 A. It was probably close to R-rated. To be 10:18:17

15 honest, I wasn't part of most of that production. I 10:18:33

16 was up front selling tickets because that was right 10:18:37

17 after Pride. So -- 10:18:40

18 Q. When you say "After Pride," what are you -- 10:18:45

19 A. I wasn't involved in planning that or 10:18:48

20 organizing it because I was involved with organizing 10:18:50

21 and planning the Pride Festival last year. So I 10:18:54

22 don't know too much details of that show. I just 10:18:57

23 dealt with tickets. 10:18:59

24 Q. Just so I'm clear, when you say "Pride," is 10:19:02

25 that Mid-South Pride or -- 10:19:06

1 of those come to us personally, not necessarily to 10:26:05  
2 the Friends of George's. So I will have to check 10:26:08  
3 and see. I know I personally have not gotten any, 10:26:09  
4 but other board members may have, so let me see what 10:26:13  
5 we can collect for you. 10:26:16

6 Q. And we discussed that Friends of George's has 10:26:41  
7 conducted their productions at an age-restricted 10:26:45  
8 venue. Do you know if Friends of George's has 10:26:49  
9 conducted their performances at a licensed, 10:26:53  
10 adult-oriented establishment? 10:26:55

11 A. I don't believe so. I mean, that's not 10:26:59  
12 something that -- first of all, how would I know 10:27:03  
13 that bar or that location has registered or filed 10:27:06  
14 for that? That would be really hard for me to tell 10:27:08  
15 you whether they have or not. That's not something 10:27:11  
16 normally people disclose when they ask you to come 10:27:14  
17 to perform at your event, but I don't believe so. 10:27:17

18 Q. Do you know if that's something members of 10:27:25  
19 Friends of George's have asked an establishment if 10:27:27  
20 they have a license? 10:27:30

21 A. I don't believe anyone has ever asked that. 10:27:33  
22 To be honest, it's not something we think about 10:27:36  
23 because it's not in what we do. 10:27:39

24 Q. And when you say, It's not something we do -- 10:27:49  
25 or I'm paraphrasing there -- is that because the 10:27:52

1 productions don't typically have those 10:27:57

2 adult-oriented entertainment elements? 10:28:02

3 A. Well, I mean, I'm not sure what your 10:28:05

4 definition of an adult establishment or what kind of 10:28:08

5 establishment would be because it's -- your opinion 10:28:12

6 on something could be very different than my opinion 10:28:16

7 on something. So it's very vague for me. I'm not 10:28:19

8 sure how to answer that. 10:28:21

9 Q. So when I say adult-oriented entertainment 10:28:23

10 establishment, what would that mean to you? 10:28:27

11 A. A strip club. I would say no. If you're 10:28:31

12 talking about a strip club, we have never performed 10:28:34

13 in a strip club because that's not what we do. 10:28:38

14 Q. And do you know if Friends of George's has 10:28:56

15 ever applied for a license to provide adult-oriented 10:28:58

16 entertainment? 10:29:04

17 A. We have never. 10:29:05

18 Q. And we've discussed a little bit about 10:29:18

19 Friends of George's structure, say with board 10:29:20

20 members and different officers. What is Friends of 10:29:22

21 George's relationship with its performers? 10:29:24

22 A. Well, several of the board members are also 10:29:29

23 on the board. And then outside of that, we have a 10:29:31

24 lot of volunteers that perform for us. 10:29:33

25 Q. Are there performers that are on contract 10:29:40

1 right? Just for clarification; right. I just want 10:52:05  
2 to make sure that I'm answering -- like you said in 10:52:08  
3 the very beginning, the actual question you're 10:52:11  
4 asking. 10:52:13

5 Q. So let me rephrase. 10:52:14

6 So would a typical Friends of George's show 10:52:16  
7 be suitable for a person 13 years and under? 10:52:21

8 A. Well, that's, once again, based off of what 10:52:27  
9 your opinion is what's suitable. And it's obviously 10:52:30  
10 probably different than my opinion, because everyone 10:52:33  
11 has different opinions. I would be okay if my child 10:52:35  
12 was 13 or 14 coming to one of our productions. 10:52:38

13 Q. What about, say, six years old? 10:52:43

14 A. Yeah. It's -- once again, it's up to the 10:52:49  
15 parent to decide on what is appropriate for their 10:52:55  
16 child. 10:52:57

17 Q. Do Friends of George's shows typically 10:53:08  
18 feature nudity? 10:53:10

19 A. Can you define nudity? 10:53:12

20 Q. Let's just say showing of the pubic area or 10:53:14  
21 buttocks with less than full covering or breasts 10:53:18  
22 with less than full covering? 10:53:22

23 A. No. Everything is covered or it's a satire; 10:53:24  
24 right? It's fake. It's comedy. We like to poke 10:53:26  
25 fun at things. But yeah, there is no visible 10:53:35

1 nudity, if that's your -- 10:53:39

2 Q. Thank you, Ms. Rodley. 10:53:43

3 Does a Friends of George's -- a typical show 10:53:44

4 for Friends of George's feature human or male 10:53:47

5 genitals that are in a state of sexual stimulation 10:53:52

6 or arousal? 10:53:54

7 A. Can you explain to me what your definition of 10:53:56

8 "state of arousal" would be? Because I just want to 10:53:58

9 make sure I'm clear on this. 10:54:02

10 Q. Sure. Well, this is a first -- sure. Let's 10:54:04

11 just say that a male genital that's aroused. 10:54:07

12 A. That's aroused. I would say no. No. Once 10:54:12

13 again, there's nothing visible of that, so that's 10:54:21

14 real; right? 10:54:25

15 Q. And that's one example that I threw out 10:54:25

16 there. But just to be clear for, I guess, similar 10:54:28

17 examples, would your answer be the same, that 10:54:31

18 Friends of George's typical shows wouldn't include 10:54:34

19 those states of arousal? 10:54:38

20 A. Correct, sir. We don't have anything visible 10:54:42

21 with the state of arousal. 10:54:45

22 Q. And do typical shows for Friends of George's 10:54:59

23 feature descriptions of representations of 10:55:00

24 flagellation, torture, or physical restraint for the 10:55:00

25 purpose of sexual gratification? 10:55:04



1 A. Are you saying for the purpose of sexual 10:55:09  
2 gratification? 10:55:12

3 Q. Yes. 10:55:13

4 A. No, sir. Nothing we do would be for purpose 10:55:14  
5 of sexual gratification. 10:55:16

6 Q. Would there be another purpose? 10:55:17

7 A. Everything we do is -- our intent is to have 10:55:20  
8 fun and have humor and to show, you know, all kinds 10:55:23  
9 of different sides of things going on in our 10:55:29  
10 community. 10:55:32

11 Q. Do typical shows for Friends of George's 10:55:41  
12 feature representations or descriptions of sexual 10:55:42  
13 intercourse, fellatio, cunnilingus, or sodomy? 10:55:43

14 A. Can you explain -- can you go into that? Say 10:55:49  
15 that one more time. I want to make sure I got it. 10:55:51

16 Q. Do typical shows for Friends of George's 10:55:53  
17 feature representations or descriptions of sexual 10:55:55  
18 intercourse, fellatio, cunnilingus or sodomy? 10:55:58

19 A. I don't believe so. We may skirt around some 10:56:05  
20 of those topics in a funny way, but we do not 10:56:08  
21 simulate that stuff. 10:56:13

22 Q. And for those situations that you try to 10:56:33  
23 skirt around, would you say that those 10:56:35  
24 representations or descriptions are patently 10:56:36  
25 offensive? 10:56:43

1 A. No. 10:56:43

2 MR. TIMMONS: Hey, Robert. We've been 10:56:45  
3 going about two hours. Can we take a break? 10:56:46

4 MR. WILSON: Sure. Do you want to take 10:56:49  
5 about a five-minute break? 10:56:49

6 MR. TIMMONS: Can we take ten? 10:56:50

7 MR. WILSON: Okay. Let's do it. Let's 10:56:51  
8 say 11 -- let's just do 11:10. 10:56:53

9 MR. TIMMONS: Sound goods. Thanks. 10:56:58

10 MR. WILSON: We are off the record. 10:57:00

11 (Short break.)

12 MR. WILSON: Let's go back on the 11:10:08  
13 record. And we've just taken about a ten-minute 11:10:09  
14 break after Ms. Rodley answered one of our 11:10:12  
15 questions. 11:10:16

16 BY MR. WILSON:

17 Q. Ms. Rodley, we were discussing a little bit 11:10:18  
18 about the -- or I was asking questions about the 11:10:20  
19 content of Friends of George's shows, and I just 11:10:24  
20 wanted to continue on that line. 11:10:27

21 Ms. Rodley, do Friends of George's shows 11:10:36  
22 feature representations or descriptions of 11:10:38  
23 masturbation? 11:10:42

24 A. Can you clarify what masturbation is? 11:10:47

25 Because my definition of what that is might be 11:10:49

1 different than yours. 11:10:52

2 Q. What would your definition of that be? 11:10:54

3 A. Well, for me, I'm a woman, so masturbating 11:10:55

4 for me is a little different than masturbating for a 11:10:58

5 male. So for me, you know, my variation of that is 11:11:02

6 probably different than yours. 11:11:05

7 Q. Could we agree that it's touching of the 11:11:10

8 pubic area for male or female? 11:11:13

9 A. But that's subject too; right? Touching how? 11:11:18

10 Q. Let's just say -- 11:11:23

11 A. I could be brushing that area. That's 11:11:25

12 touching. It's not really doing anything; right? 11:11:29

13 So I just need a little bit more clarification of 11:11:33

14 that. 11:11:36

15 Q. Well, let's do this: Let's just -- okay. 11:11:39

16 Well, I guess when I say masturbation for you, what 11:11:45

17 does that entail? 11:11:49

18 A. Well, I'm not going to talk about -- 11:11:50

19 Q. I don't mean it -- sorry. Let me -- I don't 11:11:54

20 mean that personally. 11:11:55

21 A. Okay. 11:11:57

22 Q. So when I say -- 11:11:58

23 A. See, this is the problem here. It's very 11:12:04

24 vague and it can be interpreted in many different 11:12:06

25 levels, which is why we have a problem with this 11:12:09

1 bill. Because you, yourself, are even having a 11:12:11

2 problem right now defining that. This is very 11:12:14

3 subject. It's -- everyone's opinion is different. 11:12:16

4 The gray area is very gray here. 11:12:20

5 Q. So when somebody says "masturbation," what 11:12:23

6 does that make you think? 11:12:25

7 A. I don't think anything. I mean, it's a 11:12:31

8 natural human thing to do, so I don't have an 11:12:33

9 opinion about it. 11:12:35

10 Q. So what is the doing of the masturbation? 11:12:36

11 A. It up to interpretation by the different 11:12:42

12 people. No one is masturbating in our shows. 11:12:46

13 Q. And how do you define masturbation? 11:12:53

14 A. I'm just going based off what I'm hearing 11:12:56

15 from you. No one is doing that at our shows. 11:12:57

16 Q. Do you have a definition of masturbation or 11:13:01

17 what you think of -- 11:13:04

18 A. I would ask you for that definition. 11:13:05

19 Q. Well, I'm deposing you today, so -- 11:13:07

20 MR. TIMMONS: Robert, I mean, she's 11:13:10

21 asking you to define the terms that you're asking 11:13:12

22 her about. And that is a perfectly legitimate thing 11:13:16

23 to ask. If you don't know what you're asking her, 11:13:20

24 then she can't answer the question. 11:13:22

25 MR. WILSON: Okay. Sure. All right. 11:13:26

1 Well, we will move on to the next question here. 11:13:29

2 BY MR. WILSON:

3 Q. Do Friends of George's show feature 11:13:33

4 representations or descriptions of excretory 11:13:35

5 functions? 11:13:38

6 A. What's that? What's an excretory function? 11:13:39

7 Q. Excretory function. 11:13:44

8 A. What's that? 11:13:45

9 Q. Oh, I thought you said a different word. 11:13:47

10 Say, defecation, pooping, peeing. 11:13:49

11 A. So you're asking if any of our performers are 11:13:55

12 peeing or pooping on stage? 11:13:59

13 Q. Yes. 11:14:02

14 A. That would be a no. I'm a little offended by 11:14:03

15 that, by the way, just so you know. I don't 11:14:09

16 understand how that has anything to do with this. 11:14:10

17 And you've asked a lot of questions about this kind 11:14:13

18 of stuff, and I'm just -- 11:14:16

19 Q. I understand. And I try -- I didn't mean to 11:14:18

20 offend. 11:14:22

21 A. I know you gave me a preface, but I'm just 11:14:23

22 saying, like, you're asking a lot of these over and 11:14:24

23 over again, the same things, and it's, you know, a 11:14:28

24 little repetitive. 11:14:31

25 Q. Do Friends of George's show feature 11:14:37

1 representations or descriptions of a lewd exhibition 11:14:39  
2 of genitals? 11:14:43

3 A. What's a lewd exhibition? 11:14:45

4 Q. Let me ask you -- 11:14:53

5 A. I want -- in the very beginning of this, you 11:14:54

6 said to ask questions to make sure that I'm 11:14:55

7 answering -- that's why I'm asking, because I want 11:14:58

8 to make sure I am answering correctly. I am under 11:15:01

9 oath. 11:15:03

10 Q. Sure. Well, let's -- let me rephrase and 11:15:04

11 re-ask. 11:15:06

12 Do Friends of George's show feature an 11:15:07

13 exhibition of male or female genitals? 11:15:09

14 A. Are we talking about -- I'm sorry -- 11:15:13

15 "exhibition," I'm still not sure what you're meaning 11:15:18

16 by that, so I can't answer that. 11:15:24

17 Q. Display. 11:15:25

18 A. Display of an actual penis and an actual 11:15:25

19 breast? 11:15:26

20 Q. Yes. 11:15:26

21 A. Human, actual, not fake, no, we do not. 11:15:26

22 Q. And do Friends of George's shows include 11:15:46

23 fondling or erotic touching of genitals, pubic 11:15:48

24 region, the buttocks, or the female breast? 11:15:51

25 A. So, erotic? I'm confused. Because I could 11:15:57

1 brush somebody by accident and that would 11:16:01

2 technically be defined in what you just said, so I 11:16:02

3 need you to clarify that a little. 11:16:06

4 Q. I suppose, would it be the person who is 11:16:08

5 doing the touching is doing it in erotic. Does that 11:16:11

6 make it more clear? 11:16:15

7 A. So you're asking if somebody is touching 11:16:16

8 somebody else in an erotic way for an arousal or for 11:16:19

9 sexual nature? 11:16:23

10 Q. Yes. 11:16:24

11 A. Everything we do is for comedy, so no. 11:16:25

12 Q. From what we discussed, I've discussed it as 11:16:51

13 productions, but have your performers engaged in any 11:16:54

14 of that conduct during any of the productions? 11:16:57

15 A. Which conduct are we referencing? 11:16:58

16 Q. When I refer to productions, that would 11:17:03

17 include the -- 11:17:07

18 A. The show? 11:17:09

19 Q. And the performers in the show. So they 11:17:10

20 would not be the ones conducting that. 11:17:13

21 A. So what you're -- I'm sorry. I'm just 11:17:15

22 confused here. So you're asking if our performers 11:17:18

23 in one of our shows would do what? 11:17:21

24 Q. I guess for our previous serious of 11:17:25

25 questions, any of that conduct that you have said 11:17:28

1 that Friends of George's production didn't contain. 11:17:30

2 A. Robert, you've asked me several questions, so 11:17:32

3 if you could clarify, please, which exact you're 11:17:35

4 asking. 11:17:38

5 Q. Okay. We will move on to the next questions 11:17:39

6 here. 11:17:49

7 A. Okay. 11:17:49

8 Q. Has Friends of George's ever been charged 11:17:50

9 with violating Tennessee's obscenity laws? 11:17:52

10 A. No. 11:17:55

11 Q. Has any Friends of George's performers been 11:17:56

12 charged with violating Tennessee's obscenity laws? 11:17:58

13 A. No. 11:18:01

14 Q. Has Friends of George's ever been threatened 11:18:09

15 to be charged with violating Tennessee's obscenity 11:18:12

16 laws? 11:18:15

17 A. Well, this bill made it a little nervous for 11:18:16

18 us whether we would or would not, not knowing a lot 11:18:19

19 of gray areas and what the definitions are of that, 11:18:21

20 we are unsure of whether or not we would violate or 11:18:23

21 not violate. That's why we filed the lawsuit. 11:18:26

22 Q. But I guess prior to the lawsuit, did anybody 11:18:30

23 any government official, threaten Friends of 11:18:36

24 George's with enforcement of -- 11:18:40

25 A. No. 11:18:42